

# The Saturday News

ALBERTA'S PROVINCIAL WEEKLY

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## Note and Comment

Who said money was tight? Not the proprietors of Norris and Rowe's circus, not the managers of Mrs. Fiske's company, not the directors of the Edmonton exhibition. What stoics we all are! We may be wondering how we are going to make together enough money to induce the groceryman to keep sending us supplies this month. We may have to think of some property that we think is going to be valuable ere long because we cannot make a payment that is due on the purchase price. There are heaps of public and private objects that we would like to contribute to but have to ask to be excused. But we have to be amused, if there is anything comes along that will amuse us. The state of the money market has absolutely no effect on our determination.

If it is hard to raise the price, the more necessary we feel the relaxation to be. The greater our troubles, the more need there is for forgetting them, if only during a brief interval. Our argument may be fallacious but how many of us act according to logic? Reason is for reasonable people, and they are very much in the minority. After all, would the world be a better place if there were fewer happy-go-lucky people in it?

"It is magnificent but it is not war" was a remark which some military celebrity made some years ago and which people have been repeating ever since. "It is magnificent but it is not a fair" was the parody suggested by a visit to the exhibition grounds this week. There were exhibits and some of the classes were moderately well filled; but on the whole the showing did not tend to give anyone a better opinion of the resources of the province, and a very large proportion of the crowd did not see anything outside of what went on before the grandstand and in a few of the side shows.

Of course, this is an old complaint and it is difficult to suggest a remedy. The directors have to study what the public wants and it is perfectly apparent that it craves very little about the so-called educational features and a very great deal about the horse races, the acrobats, and the other things which are supposed to be merely incidental but which for most people make up the whole show. These features cannot be excluded. They must be maintained in order to bring out the crowds. But it is a pity that more interest cannot be worked up in the exhibition proper. It should be the means of keeping our own people acquainted with the material progress we are making and enabling visitors to appreciate the opportunities which this part of the west has to offer.

It is a strange thing that many people who would never think of entering a first-class theatre are among the most eager to attend a circus. This is something which must have struck some people very forcibly as they looked around the big tent, which has been pitched at various points throughout Alberta during the past two weeks. Why should anyone object to witnessing the work of such genuine artists as Mrs. Fiske, Mr. Mason and Mr. Arliss and take the keenest delight out of the broad jocularities of the clown and the feats of the lady bare-back rider? We are not finding fault with the latter but the theatrical attraction is a higher type of relaxation. It serves an intellectual purpose as well, helping us to better understand life and its problems.

Would it not be better if instead of condemning the theatre in general, we should unite in supporting the best that it gives us and keeping away from the worst. There is nothing to be gained by giving it over altogether to the devil.

Harper's Weekly had an article in a recent issue which, while it did not tell us anything that we did not know already, must cause every Canadian and particularly every Al-

bertan no inconsiderable measure of pride:

"The fact," it says, "seems to justify the forecast that the development of Canada will constitute the most remarkable economic phenomenon of the twentieth century. Let us glance, for example, at the data concerning the agricultural possibilities of the northwestern provinces, and the mineral industries of the Dominion."

"It is unquestionably true that the great colonizing achievement performed by the United States during the nineteenth century, to wit, the transformation of the west from a savage wilderness to a settled, orderly, prosperous, and populous community, is now being repeated north of the forty ninth parallel by Canada."

Discussing Western prospects Harper's Weekly says:

"BOTH CALGARY AND EDMONTON HAVE GOOD GROUND FOR LOOKING FORWARD TO A POPULATION OF ONE HUNDRED THOUSAND APiece IN THE COURSE OF A FEW YEARS, while Regina (the capital of Saskatchewan), Moose Jaw, Saskatoon, and Brandon are all certain to become large towns within another decade."

ity interests of the Empire, as a whole, is in itself a step in advance, and a step towards unification. It is in no sense of the word an infringement of autonomy. It is the expression, not the denial, of self-government."

This is succinctly enough stated. If the opinion expressed is that which will be put forth by the Conservative leaders in the House of Commons, it will certainly create a great and a definite issue between the two parties. If this does arise, the Saturday News believes that it will immeasurably strengthen the hands of the Premier. The consistent attitude of the present Liberal government in declining to interfere in the trade controversy in Great Britain, on the ground that it was purely an affair of the Mother Country's, has served to raise Canada in the estimation of the British people. The statesmanlike course pursued by Sir Wilfrid at the recent conference, contrasted strongly as it was to that of some of the Premiers from the Antipodes, helped us still further. The different parts of the Empire have each their own problems and it is for the people of each to decide what changes they will make in the hope of benefiting the others. Canada has no right to ask the British tax-

likely, Sir Wilfrid has plenty of old men around him. What he wants is youth and energy. These Mr. Sifton possesses, joined to first-class general ability. That the Premier, in many an awkward situation during the first few years, has wished that he had the former Minister of the Interior at his side can well be believed.

But there are obstacles in the way. The Western public knows what they are and the best friends of the party are those who will caution the leader against overlooking them.

The Conservative convention at Red Deer was held exclusively for Dominion purposes, and these present state that they have been very greatly encouraged as a result of the gathering. The party is certainly not dead in the province. Mr. Hyndman is an excellent choice as provincial president and the Conservative members now in parliament have given an admirable account of themselves there and will prove very strong leaders in the next contest.

It is very doubtful if a general Dominion election will be brought on as soon as some people seem to think it will. There would be no excuse for dissolution this autumn. The present

issue of importance, the members have voted as they liked. On the school question, Mr. Borden was deserted by a large proportion of his followers. The speeches which Conservative leaders made on behalf of their candidates in London and North Oxford they would not have dared to make in Quebec. On the tariff question, the Western Conservatives and a few from the east, called for a lower duty on agricultural implements but most of their allies from the other provinces voted with the government. With such party chaos, how is success possible?

But those who say that the party must look to the West to bring them back into power know what they are talking about. By bringing its policy more in accord with western sentiment, it will accomplish much in these provinces and swing to its side many possible allies in the east. On the tariff issue, the Western Conservatives are showing the way. If they can bring their friends around to their ideas, something may be accomplished. But till some such movement makes its influence felt, or the Government leaps into some unforeseen folly, Liberal rule is very apt to continue.

From an interview with Hon. Mr. Cushing while in Regina at the Scott

publish very little, however excellent its objects. But it is easy to understand why such attacks are more frequent in Canada than in England. In the Mother country those who have had charge of the party machinery have not stooped to methods which have been resorted to very frequently in Canada. If we had adhered to British practice, our public men would not have to encounter the prejudice to which Mr. Cross referred. But as a matter of fact, the tendency has been to adopt American methods, and as long as we follow these, the professional organizer will never be a man whom people generally will delight to honor.

Mr. W. F. Maclean M.P. of the Toronto World has been telling the readers of that paper over and over again about the great victory which he achieved last session in securing a three cent passenger rate on Western Canadian roads. Modesty is as well known, is one of gentle William's outstanding characteristics. For fear that through his own exertions he would not secure the measure of credit that is due him, several western newspapers have also commenced to sing his praises.

It's enough to make an angel weep. Mr. Maclean was no more responsible for the reduction of the passenger rate than he was for the discovery of America. He has been talking a great deal about railway reform for years back but his proposals have been so immoderate and unreasonable and his object so obviously was simply self advertisement that it was an utter impossibility for him to influence the course of events.

The facts of the matter should be well known in this part of Canada. Several public bodies, the Associated Boards of Trade and the Alberta Farmers' Association, took the question of reduction up and presented their opinions to the government and to the railway commission. Dr. McIntyre, the member for Strathcona busied himself with the case against the railways at Ottawa and without any fireworks whatever succeeded in securing the desired reform. Immediately it was announced, Mr. Maclean came out with a flashing headline in his paper and told how he had done it all. But it can be shown that he was at no stage in its progress in touch with the movement which had this fortunate conclusion, and his attempt to reap advantage from it is as dishonest as most of the other acts of his public career have been. It is "reformers" of the McLean type who cast discredit on the whole cause of political reform.

It is announced by the Edmonton city commissioners that the paving on McDougall Avenue will be completed and that on Jasper from Ninth to Fourth streets during the present season. The street car line on the paved part of Jasper will also be laid. The other paving and car line work will be postponed till another year. It is unfortunate that the original programme cannot all be carried out. But the civic authorities have done the best that they could under the circumstances.

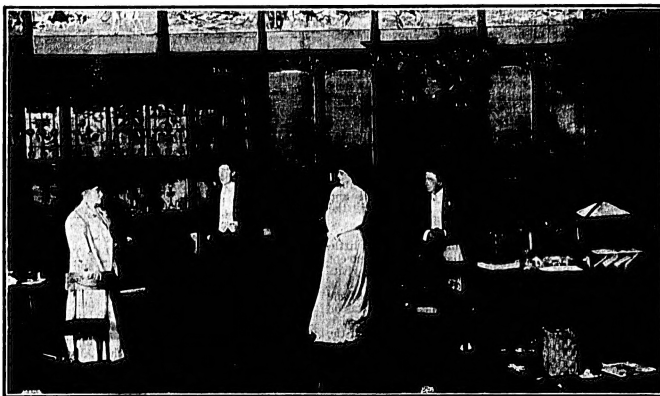
At an early hour on Friday morning Charles Senerud, formerly proprietor of the St. Emlo Hotel, was shot by some unknown party in the basement of his house at the corner of Rowland and Syndicate. The wound is said to be serious and the police are investigating as the Saturday News goes to press.

The dispute between the G.T.P. and the C.P.R. as to the right of way west of Tenth street will come before the railway commission at Winnipeg on July 9.

George Thompson has been appointed postmaster of Strathcona in place of J. W. Bain, who recently resigned. The new official assumes his duties next week.

An Indian named Vilhris, serving a term for horse stealing, made a dash for liberty at the penitentiary last Friday but was recaptured by Guard Stewart after a hard chase.

The A.F.A. picnic at R. Sheppard's farm, two miles east of Strathcona, will take place on July 15th, instead of July 16th.



A DELIGHTFUL MEMORY.

A scene in the fourth act of "The New York Idea," the presentation of which by Mrs. Fiske and her splendid company in Calgary on Monday and Wednesday nights, in Edmonton on Tuesday, was the most notable dramatic event in the history of this part of the Canadian West. In the above the four principal characters are shown, Mrs. Karlsake (Mrs. Fiske), Sir Wilfrid Cates-Darby (Mr. Arliss), Mrs. Phillimore (Miss Lea) and Mr. Karlsake (Mr. Mason). An extended notice of the production appears on another page. The photo and the cut are furnished by the Byron-May Co.

It is announced that Sir Wilfrid Laurier will sail for Canada on July 12th. While Peter Ryan, Jimmy McShane and some other supporters of the Premier's may be doubtful as to whether he will land in his native country at all after setting out on so un auspicious a date, Canadians generally will wish him a safe voyage and those of eastern Canada are preparing to tender him a most hearty welcome.

The Winnipeg Telegram comes out flat-footedly in opposition to the stand taken by Sir Wilfrid Laurier in the preferential trade issue at the Imperial conference. "The attitude," it declares, "of those who say that colonial opinion has no right to try to persuade the British people, is neither fair nor reasonable. They take the extraordinary ground that the attitude of the British people is entirely their own concern. On the contrary, the attitude of any part of the Empire when it touches the interests of the Empire, is the concern of every part of it."

"The existence of this imperial responsibility has always been clearly recognised. Up till now the colonial office has been its interpreter and has set its limits. The appeal to a concurrent body of public opinion, representing the major-

payers to add to their burdens for the sake of a preference to the products of this country may make more than Great Britain should make similar requests for the benefit of its industries upon the Canadian people. We each know our own business best, and when a policy of interference is inaugurated, the imperial bond will soon go to pieces."

The work of cabinet reconstruction will be actively begun on Sir Wilfrid's return. Mr. Calvert, the Liberal whip, in an interview the other day suggested that there might be another Westerner appointed to the cabinet, to take the place of Mr. Hyman. Both from the stand point of population and the extent to which this part of the Dominion is engaged public attention, the west is entitled to further representation. That the view man would come from Manitoba is a certainty. It is the most populous of the provinces on this side of the lakes and has no Minister. Naturally Mr. Sifton's name is suggested. His prominence in connection with the negotiations for an "All Red" steamship line and the evident intention to make this project serve party capital lend color to the idea that he will return to the cabinet. The other possible Manitoban now in the House is Mr. Greenway but his selection is extremely un-

likely. Sir Wilfrid has plenty of old men around him. What he wants is youth and energy. These Mr. Sifton possesses, joined to first-class general ability. That the Premier, in many an awkward situation during the first few years, has wished that he had the former Minister of the Interior at his side can well be believed.

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banquet, which the Regina West obtained, the following extract is taken:

"The university site has been purchased and there is no likelihood of a change in the location, but nothing further will be done this year."

This may be taken to settle the matter. The announcement makes the speech of the Minister of Public Works at the laying of the corner stone of the Normal school in Calgary the more difficult to explain. If there was doubt as to where the university would be erected at that time, what can have happened since then to dissipate this uncertainty?

Hon. Mr. Cross, at a small gathering held in honor of his return from Europe by some of the more prominent Liberals of his constituency called attention to the fact that both Liberals and Conservatives maintained strong organizations in England and protested against attacks that are made upon the so-called "machine" in Canada. Party organization, he declared, is necessary

and it is no dishonor to be associated with it. The Attorney-General's point is well worth noting. The general attacks to which he refers have no justification. A political body which did not have an organization of some kind could accom-